

Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /064 W
----- 041120

R 280503Z JUL 76
FM AMCONSUL NAHA
TO SECSTATE WASH DC 2163
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB
5TH AF YOKOTA
USARJ CAMP ZAMA
COMNAVFOR JAPAN YOKOSSKA
FMFPAC HAWAII
USAGO MACHINATO
313TH AD/18TH TFW CG
MARCORB CAMP BUTLER
COMFLEACTS OKINAWA
OAFO CAMP BUTLER
OAC CAMP BUTLER
FBIS OKINAWA
DOD SPECREP OKINAWA
CINCPAC

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PAGE 2 RHAIBQA 4402
CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD
E.O. 11652: NA
EVTAGS: MARR, JA
SUBJECT: POLLS ON U.S. BASES AND JSDF
SUMMARY: RECENT PRESS POLL SUGGESTS THAT FEW OKINAWANS CONSIDER
U.S. BASES AND JAPAN SELF DEFENSE FORCES AS SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS
AFFECTING THEM PERSONALLY. THERE IS, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE
THOUGH DECLINING GENERALIZED ANTI-BASE, ANTI-SDF SENTIMENT.
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APPARENT SHALLOWNESS OF THSI SENTIMENT COUPLED WITH EVIDENT DESIRES

OF MOST MILITARY LANDOWNERS TO CONTINUE RENTING THEIR LANDS FOR BASES SUGGESTS THAT LEFT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DEVELOP DEEP-SEATED CAMPAIGN AGAINST GOJ EFFORTS TO ENACT NEW LAND LEGISLATION. END SUMMARY.

1. RYUKYU SHIMPO CONDUCTED POLL APRIL 30-MAY 2, 1976, SURVEYING PUBLIC OPINION AT FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF OKINAWA REVERSION, WHICH HAS INTERESTING REVELATION RE ATTITUDES TOWARD U.S. BASES AND JSDF. 72 PERCENT OF RANDOM SAMPLE OF 1,000 OF ELIGIBLE VOTING AGE RESPONDED.

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2. ASKED TO LIST TWO PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT RESPONDENT THE MOST, 78 PERCENT CITED HIGH PRICES, FOLLOWED BY FROM 12 TO 22 PERCENT CONCERNED ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT, MEDICAL TREATMENT, HOUSING, TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND CRIMES. ONLY FOUR PERCENT EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT CONTINUED PRESENCE OF U.S. BASES AND PRESENCE OF JSDF, RESPECTIVELY. 3. RE CRIME PREVENTION, ONLY ONE PERCENT CALLED FOR STRICT CONTROL OVER U.S. BASES AND STRENGTHENED MILITARY DISCIPLINE. PERCENTAGES VARYING FROM 11 TO 19 PERCENT CALLED FOR ANNIHILATION OF GANGSTER ORGANIZATION, STRENGTHENED POLICE PATROLS, ETC. 4. RE JSDF, 24 PERCENT CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL, 35 PERCENT ACCEPTED PRESENT STRENGTH BUT OPPOSED REINFORCEMENT, FIVE PERCENT CALLED FOR REINFORCEMENT, AND 34 PERCENT WERE UNINTERESTED OR DID NOT RESPOND. PERCENTAGE CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL HAS DECLINED STEADILY SINCE 1972 POLL IN WHICH 42 PERCENT SAID THAT STATIONING OF SDF IN OKINAWA WAS NOT NECESSARY. COMMENTARY, HOWEVER, CONTRASTED RESULTS OF THIS POLL WITH OCT 1975 POLL CONDUCTED BY GOJ PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE WHICH INDICATED 79 PERCENT SUPPORT FOR SDF AND ONLY 8 PERCENT OPPOSITION IN JAPAN AS A WHOLE. 5. RE U.S. BASES, 38 PERCENT CALLED FOR COMPLETE RETURN, 18 PER-

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CENT SAID PARTIAL RETURNS WERE FINE BUT SHOULD BE ACCELERATED, 15 PERCENT WERE CONTENT WITH STATUS QUO, AND 27 PERCENT LISTED "OTHER" OR DID NOT RESPOND. TOTAL OF 56 PERCENT FAVORING COMPLETE OR PARTIAL RETURN CONTRASTS WITH 78 PERCENT IN 1973 AND 70 PERCENT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1974, BUT PERCENTAGE SATISFIED WITH STATUS QUO ROSE FROM 9 PERCENT IN 1973 TO ONLY 15 PERCENT IN 1976. SHIMPO ATTRIBUTED DECLINE IN PERCENTAGE FAVORING BASE RETURN TO PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH REUTILIZATION OF RELEASED LANDS AND "FACT THAT SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO U.S. BASES HAVE NOT COME TO SURFACE". ANOTHER RECENT SHIMPO REPORT STATED THAT ONLY 5.4 PERCENT OF LANDS RELEASED SINCE JAN 1970 HAVE BEEN PUT TO USE.

6. COMMENT: POLL INDICATES THAT ALTHOUGH FEW OKINAWANS CONSIDER

U.S. BASES AND SDF AS PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT THEM PERSONALLY, THERE IS STILL CONSIDERABLE THOUGH DECLINING GENERALIZED ANTI-BASE, ANTI-SDF SENTIMENT. REFORMIST COALITION PLAYED ON THESE FEELINGS DURING RECENT PREFECTURAL ELECTIONS AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY SEEK TO EXPLOIT THEM IN FORTHCOMING DIET ELECTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, POLL ALSO SUGGESTS THAT OPPOSITION TO OUR BASES IS NOT VERY DEEPLY FELT. WHILE THE LEFT WILL TRY TO BUILD OPPOSITION TO GOJ EFFORTS TO

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ENACT LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING CONTINUED EXPROPRIATION OF LAND FOR MILITARY USE AFTER MAY 14, 1977, IT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DEVELOP STRONG GRASS ROOTS OPPOSITION.

7. IN CONTRAST TO THE ABOVE RANDOM SAMPLE POLL COVERING ALL CATEGORIES OF OKINAWANS, ANOTHER POLL CONDUCTED IN EARLY JULY 1976 BY GINOWAN CITY MILITARY LANDOWNERS ASSOC., AND REPORTED IN SHIMPO, REVEELED THT 82.6 PERCENT OF GINOWAN LANDOWNERS OPPOSED RETURN OF THEIR LAND. BASE LANDS ACCOUNT FOR 40 PERCENT OF GINOWAN AREA, INCLUDING MCAS FUTENMA, PART OF ZUKERAN, PART OF RMY POL FACILITY AND PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY. SHIMPO COMMENTED THT RESULTS OF THIS POLL ARE "LIKELY TO CREATE A GREAT STIR AMONG PEOPLE ON OKINAWA" (FBIS OKINAWA DTG 172206Z JUL 76).

8. ANOTHER SHIMPO SURVEY OF MILITARY LANDOWNERS PUBLISHED JULY 14 STATES THT 51.3PERCENT ARE AGAINST RETURN OF THEIR LANDS, 21.2 PERCENT FAVOR RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND 15.3 PERCENT FAVOR RETURN

IF THERE ARE PROJECTS FOR ITS REUTILIZATION. HOWEVER, THE LAND WHICH THE 21.2 PERCENT WANTS BACK REPRESENTS ONLY 5 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL MILITARY LAND AREA IN OKINAWA.

9. COMMENT: THESE LATTER TWO POLLS OBVIOUSLY REFLECT FACT
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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-07 /064 W

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R 280503Z JUL 76

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: POLLS ON U.S. BASES AND JSDF
CURRENT

THAT/GOJ RENTAL PAYMENTS FOR BASE LANDS AVERAGE TEN TIMES MORE THAN
AMOUNT LANDOWNERS RECEIVED BEFORE REVERSION, AS WELL AS PROBLEMS
OWNERS OF RELEASED LAND HAVE IN MAKING USE OF IT. SATISFIED
LANDOWNERS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BRING PRESSURE ON THEIR COMPATRIOTS
FOR CONTINUED RETENTION OF BASES AND RESULTANT RENT PAYMENTS,
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WHICH NOW TOTAL OVER \$100 MILLION PER YEAR.
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Message Attributes

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Concepts: PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, MILITARY BASES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLLS ON U.S. BASES AND JSDF SUMMARY: RECENT PRESS POLL SUGGESTS THAT FEW OKINAWANS CONSIDER U.S. BASES AND JAPAN SELF DEFENSE FORCES AS SIGNIF
TAGS: SOPN, MARR, JA, US
To: STATE TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006